

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132786

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, OVIP, GE, US

SUBJECT: MATERIALS FOR AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH BEIL

REF: A) STATE 120984; B) FASTO-2; C) BERLIN 3422;
D) STATE 118717

1. OPERATIVE PORTIONS OF BEIL'S MAY 10 CONVERSATIONS
WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN AND ACTING SECRETARY
OF AGRICULTURE FOREMAN WERE REPORTED REFS. A AND B.
THIS CABLE ELABORATES ON THOSE CONVERSATIONS AND
REFERS TO OTHER MATERIAL FOR USE IN AMBASSADOR'S
UPCOMING MEETING WITH BEIL (REF. C).

2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN BEGAN HER MEETING WITH
BEIL BY DESCRIBING ROLE AND COMPOSITION OF HUMANITARIAN
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AFFAIRS BUREAU AND INTEREST OF CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT
IN HUMAN RIGHTS. THE PRESIDENT, SHE SAID, HAD A
"SPECIAL PERSONAL INTEREST; IN HUMAN RIGHTS AS A
"LIFE PRINCIPLE" AND, MOTIVATED BY OUR CIVIL RIGHTS
MOVEMENT, OUR ACTIONS IN VIETNAM AND A FEELING THAT OUR
FOREIGN POLICY HAD NOT REFLECTED OUR TRUE PRINCIPLES
HAD MADE IT A VITAL COMPONENT OF HIS CAMPAIGN.

3. WE REALIZE, DERIAN CONTINUED, THAT WE HAVE NOT REACHED PERFECTION IN U.S. AND THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS A CONTINUING PROCESS IN ALL COUNTRIES. WE MUST CONSTANTLY REVIEW JUDICIAL PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE. IN THE CASE OF THE WILMINGTON 10, FOR EXAMPLE, MANY PEOPLE FEEL THAT JUSTICE HAD NOT BEEN DONE AND THAT THE CASE SHOULD BE REOPENED. NOR DO WE BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE TREATED THE NATIVE AMERICANS WELL OR THAT WE HAVE REACTED ADEQUATELY TO BLACK TEENAGE UNEMPLOYMENT. THESE ADMISSIONS, SHE SAID, WERE MEANT TO UNDERLINE THAT WE DO NOT FEEL WE HAVE FOUND THE "WAY AND THE LIGHT" NOR THAT WE ARE "MISSIONARIES TO THE PAGANS." WE DO NOT VIEW OUR EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AS A PUBLICITY DEVICE NOR AS A MEANS TO DAMAGE DETENTE OR TO GAIN A STEP UP ON THE SOVIET UNION AND THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES. RATHER WE WANT TO DISCUSS WITH THE GDR HUMAN PROBLEMS, INCLUDING HUNGER AND UNEMPLOYMENT, THAT WE HAD AGREED TO DISCUSS OPENLY AND FRANKLY IN TERMS OF THE U.N. DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. DERIAN CONCLUDED HER PRESENTATION BY EXPRESSING "GREAT PLEASURE" THAT WE ARE "MOVING AHEAD" ON THE DIVIDED FAMILIES QUESTION AND ASKING BEIL FOR HIS THOUGHTS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE.

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4. CLAIMING TO BE ONLY A LAYMAN, BEIL REPLIED THAT THE GDR, A "COUNTRY OF 17 MILLION WHICH HEEDS NOT ONLY THE REQUIREMENTS OF BASKET 3 BUT OF ALL THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT," ANNUALLY WELCOMES 8.5 MILLION VISITORS FROM THE WEST AND 2 MILLION FROM EASTERN EUROPE. A "POLITICAL TRANSLATION" OF THIS, BEIL CONTINUED, WOULD MEAN THAT THE US RECEIVED OVER 100 MILLION VISITORS A YEAR FROM EASTERN EUROPE. WHEN DERIAN REMARKED THAT WE WOULD WELCOME SUCH AN INFLUX AS GOOD BUSINESS, BEIL COUNTERED BY SAYING THAT IT WAS BAD BUSINESS FOR THE GDR, SINCE, HE CLAIMED, THE GDR SUBSIDIZES CHEAP TOURISM WITH STABLE PRICES. IN CLOSING, BEIL AGREED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN, AS REPORTED PARA 3, REF A, THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE.

5. THERE IS LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE TO ADD TO EARLIER REPORT (REF B) ON BEIL'S MEETING WITH ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOREMAN EXCEPT BEIL'S REITERATION THAT GDR WANTS TO BE LONG-TERM STEADY CUSTOMER AND ASSISTANT FAS DIRECTOR SAYLOR'S

REITERATION THAT US WANTS TO REMAIN RELIABLE
SUPPLIER. ACCORDING TO BEIL, GDR'S PROBLEM IS
NOT QUANTITY BUT QUALITY OF ITS DOMESTIC GRAIN
PRODUCTION, WITH CLIMATIC CONDITIONS AND CONSUMER
HABITS PRODUCING DEMAND FOR IMPORT OF HARD BREAD QUALITY
WHEAT. DUE TO INTENSITY OF GDR'S ANIMAL BREEDING
INDUSTRY, THERE IS ALSO A GREAT DEMAND FOR HOG
AND CATTLE FODDER. THUS, HE SAID, GDR MUST
BUY BETWEEN 2 AND 3 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN ANNUALLY--
INDEPENDENT OF SIZE GDR CROP. FOR JULY 1977-JUNE 1978
PERIOD, HOWEVER, BEIL SAID GDR WOULD IMPORT 1.3 MILLION
TONS. (FULL MEMCON BEING POUCHED.)

6. IN UPCOMING MEETING WITH BEIL, AMBASSADOR SHOULD
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REITERATE OUR INTENDED AGENDA FOR FOREIGN MINISTER
FISCHER'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY AND SEEK FEEDBACK
FROM BEIL'S REPORT TO FISCHER ON HIS WASHINGTON
COVERSATIONS. BEIL SHOULD ALSO BE ASKED SPECIFICALLY
ABOUT RESULTS OF HIS TAKING UP MATTER OF FEININGER
PAINTINGS (REF D) AND TOLD THAT, ALTHOUGH WE ARE
SATISFIED WITH MOVEMENT ON DIVIDED FAMILIES,
WILHELMI-BAILEY REUNIFICATION AND KOCH-MINCOLLA
EMERGENCY VISIT ARE TROUBLESOME CASES WE WOULD
ESPECIALLY LIKE TO SEE RESOLVED. AG ATTACHE SHOULD
SEPARATELY SEEK CONFIRMATION OF BEIL'S REFERENCE
TO 1.3 MILLION TONS, WHICH IS BELOW 1.5-2 MILLION
TONS PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON. CHRISTOPHER

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